Status Report and Request for Action 10/1/95

from the Action Committee, Mineral King District Association

In support of Park goals: Compatible Summer Tenants, Caring for Mineral King, Requesting Consideration and Understanding

Thanks for your generous donations, including those from friends in Silver City.... you're all helping defray our costs, including efforts, for a few months, of our Washington, D.C. Capitol Coordinator. Thanks, also, for attending the Sunday September 6 meeting in Mineral King, when you reviewed and supported our workplan and gave us direction . For those who are sending valuable information and tips, rumors, advice, offers of help :it's useful! Our goal is to make every effort to persuade the Congress to pass new legislation which will allow permittees to transfer permits.

With this "update" we salute, in particular, Jilliana Ingram and Marinda Boswell, both of of Visalia. Jilliana is the daughter of Jim, your MKDA President, works in his office, and keeps " going straight up the trail" for all of us whenever we ask for help.

Fourteen-year-old Marinda has written us to ask what she " can do to help stop the 'eviction clause.'" She's enjoyed her "summers at the (William Phillip) Davis cabin at Harry's Bend," and "spent many summers cleaning the Sawtooth Parking Lot and other tasks to keep Mineral King a clean, safe place." We're going to ask if she can help Jilliana get these "Status Reports" ready for mailing.

If You Live in California, Now is the Time to Write.....probably two letters

This week, please write Senator Dianne Feinstein.

(Address for her & others is on the back, here.)

At the top of your letters please underline, or make a "box" in which you write "Mineral King permittee" or"Request for help in Mineral King Area," and " Attention : Kathy Lacey"."

Please 1) thank the Senator and her staff for their interest in helping get rid of the "eviction clause" which applies to permittees in the Mineral King Area and 2) express your hope that the Senator will introduce legislation " this session" to assure that our permits shall be renewed. You don't need to say why.

If you supported efforts to bring Mineral King into the Park in '78, please say so.

If you feel that your government was/is unfair because it failed to give us adequate notice of eviction clause or, feel that the Park Service is unwilling to explain the necessity for eviction, please say so.

If you admire, have supported, or voted for the Senator , please say so.

Include your address!

You don't need to say much else. It should not be long. "Handwritten" is as effective as typed.

Please write a second letter, same messages, to Congressman Radanovich if he is your Congress man....also <u>this</u> week..

Addresses on other side

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For distribution as personal memo exclusively to permittees, their friends & families

These are important requests. Letters to these two people will help *alot* at this time. Perhaps, later, we'll be asking for other letters *but we appreciate it if you would wait to hear from us before you contact other officials*

Californians please write this week!

These are the addresses:

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
US Senator for California
331 Senate Hart Building
Washington, DC 20510-0504

The Honorable George Radanovich
US House of Representatives
19th District of California
313 Cannon Building
Washington, DC 20515

"Now hear this": Your Mineral King District Association has received a response to our letter to Mr. Kennedy, Director of National Park Service. The response was written and signed by our friends in the Three Rivers office of the Park, and the answers do not respond to the large policy questions we raise. They reiterate things we've known for some time about the Land Protection and Management Plans, cite again their need to replace our cabins with campground space, and make clear the strong hopes of Sequoia Park personnel, as follows:

> "...we cannot accept the proposal that the future of Mineral King is best served by retaining much of the Valley's best land for private use. National Park lands, like those in Mineral King, should be available for the long term use of the American public....
>
> ...We appreciate that it is in the interest of your membership to seek a way to extend cabin permit privileges in Mineral King, but it is clearly the intent of Congress that permits eventually be extinguished and the lands involved be returnd to public use and enjoyment."

Members of your Board and Action Committee have studied the letter & a short response will go to DirectorKennedy. Meanwhile, on C-SPAN, before a House Committee reviewing HB 2107, about National Parks, (the very able) Kennedy is heard in testimony: "as opposed to the Forest Service, we're not in the campground business. We're in the education business and have other priorities."

National Park policy is under very close scrutiny by the Congress and according to many officials and public policy analysts, needs to be "adjusted to the times."

The Action Committee of Mineral King District Association represents sixty seven cabin owners and six hundredfriends and families of those owners. President of the The Mineral King District Association, '94-95, is Jim Ingram, 1744 E. Caldwell, Visalia, CA 93291. Coordinator of the Action Committee is Ruth Shepherd, 7955 O'Connor Court, SE, Salem, OR 97301 Telephone (503) 363-9886

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